Components of a Regional Water Resources Plan

1. Identify and delineate potential regional utility planning areas based on factors such as source issues (reliability, weaknesses, capacity), growth, topography, watershed, county and proximities.
2. Identify potential barriers to a regional approach to water resource management (inadequate communication, focus on short-term solutions, lack of planning tools and resources...)
3. Compare and contrast potential sources in terms of quantity, quality, diversity, other designated uses (fish and aquatic life, recreation, industrial water supply, livestock watering and wildlife) and special considerations such as wastewater assimilation and water quality status (impaired, exceptional, ONRW).
4. Analyze treatment/transmission capacity of each utility along with current and anticipated loadings (based on growth trends).
5. Consider the timing for additional source/treatment/transmission capacity requirements to meet anticipated loadings. What should the time horizon be? 50 years?
6. Evaluate water losses and the long-term factors associated with correction.
7. Identify conservation strategies and their impacts.
8. Analyze costs associated with new/improved sources. Determine the capital projects necessary to use those sources to meet water needs.
9. Explore possible configurations of utilities; identify pros and cons.
10. Summarize and compare alternative regional strategies; identify preferred alternative and basis for preference.
11. Develop an implementation strategy for the preferred alternative/utility configuration. (timing, structure, management, political considerations)